

HIV and HCV Prevention Program Snapshot

Harm Reduction Supply Distribution: 2021

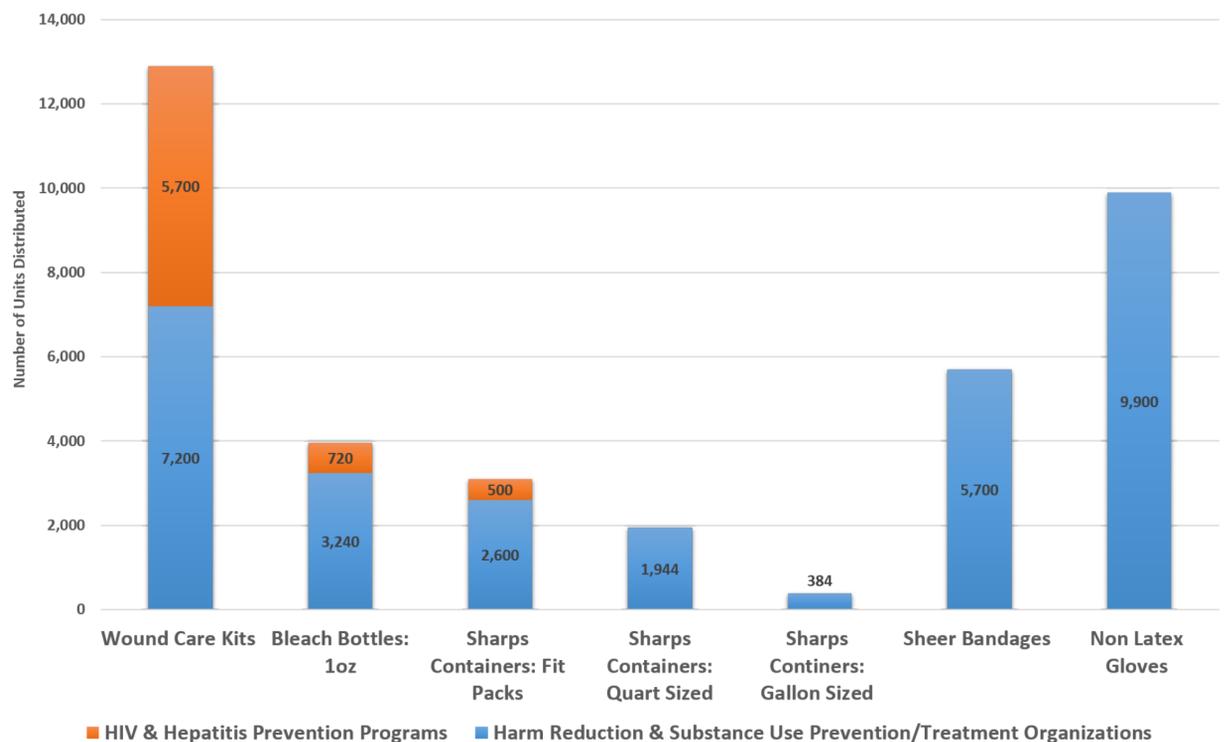
Beginning in late 2020, the Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis partnered with the Bureau of Substance Abuse to support the availability of harm reduction supplies to people who inject drugs (PWID) in Iowa.

Supplies provided through this system are intended to minimize the potential for transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C, prevent injection site bacterial and fungal complications, allow for safe storage and disposal of used injecting equipment, and support wound care. No materials considered to be drug paraphernalia are supplied.

Supplies were distributed by organizational partners to clients in the following settings:

- Community Based Harm Reduction Organizations
- Substance Use Prevention & Treatment Agencies
- HIV/HCV Prevention & Testing Programs

Statewide Supply Distribution 2021



Along with the supplies displayed above, an additional 44,000 alcohol prep pads were distributed among PWID to support injection site sanitization.

Information on Provided Supplies



Each wound care kit comes packaged in a 4" x 6" resealable polybag and contains:

- 1 pair of gloves
- 2 gauze pads
- 2 large bandages
- 2 antiseptic towelettes
- 2 200mg ibuprofen tablets

Wound care kits are intended to **minimize the risks of medical complications related to injection drug use**. Specifically, these items can help reduce the risk of injection site bacterial and fungal infections such as necrotizing fasciitis, bacteremia, endocarditis, tetanus, wound botulism, and abscesses.



It is recommended that PWID always use new sterile syringes when injecting. In the event that new materials are not readily available, disinfecting equipment with bleach can greatly reduce the risk of HIV and viral hepatitis.



Safe disposal of used injecting supplies reduces the number of used syringes that are improperly disposed of in the community. Proper disposal ensures that others are not cut by used equipment, thus preventing potential infections.



Fit Packs are small and transportable sharps containers aimed at supporting the safe storage and disposal of used supplies for those who do not have immediate access to traditional sharps containers.

HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program
 Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis
 Division of Behavioral Health
 Iowa Department of Public Health
hivhcvprevention@idph.iowa.gov

